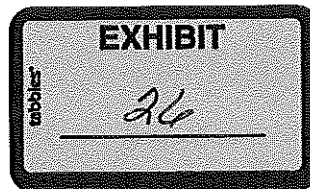


THE AVON WATER COMPANY

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January 21, 2010

Mr. Paul Stacey, Hearing Officer
State of Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Proposed Streamflow Regulations

Dear Mr. Stacey:

My name is Robert W. Wesneski, President of the Avon Water Company. Our Company is an investor owned public utility servicing 4,700 customers or about 16,000 people in Avon and a small portion of Farmington and Simsbury. I am here in opposition to the Streamflow Regulation as they currently exist.

Under Public Act 09-19, the DEP is required to evaluate the cost impact to small businesses throughout the state regarding the adoption of the proposed regulation. As one of those small businesses under the regulation, Avon Water Company would like an analysis of how DEP determined the impact on small business pursuant to this Public Act, and a copy of the report as required by this Public Act.

If all streams utilized by the Company were classified as Class II, then our average daily demand would be short by 2.7 MGD at a replacement cost of \$4,600,000. If the streams were Class III, then the shortage drops to 2.1 MGD at a replacement cost of \$3,600,000.

Our customers paid \$750,000 for a Diversion Permit, and a total of \$5,000,000 for a new wellfield, just 5 years ago. Now we are being told that the well is going to be subjected to a new set of rules. The full use of this 3 MGD supply may not be able to be used up to the DEP approved diversion level because of the proposed streamflow regulations.

The above example points out how the regulations pose an unquantifiable threat to the ability of the water company to deliver adequate, reliable and economical supplies of water to its customers.

The threat is unquantifiable because the impact depends on the classification of watersheds, which is not provided until after the regulations are adopted.

The regulations should not be adopted as proposed; instead, only the watershed classification portion of the regulations should be adopted at this time.

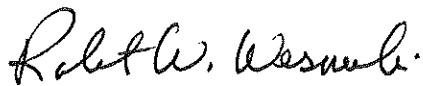
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Adopting the watershed classifications first would allow water utilities, the CTDEP and the public to focus their attention on the tradeoffs between adequate and reliable water supplies, and fish and aquatic resources in a given watershed.

Adopting the watershed classifications first will likely result in improvements to the proposed streamflow regulations by discussions of *actual impacts* to water utilities and watersheds through the public hearing/adoption process.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Very truly yours,
THE AVON WATER COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert W. Wesneski".

Robert W. Wesneski
President